

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. 19 _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

OCTOBER 24, 2006

AMENDMENT TO #19

This Board has received input from citizens and organizations objecting to the use of DRE (Direct Record Electronic) or Touchscreen Early Voting machines. Some members of our community are concerned that the Touchscreen machines do not accurately record the ballots cast. State law requires that all Touchscreen machines produce a paper voting record that is visible to the voter ("VVPAT" or Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail). The existence of this paper audit trail affords us an opportunity to ensure that the Touchscreen machines are operating correctly and accurately recording the ballots cast.

State law requires a manual recount of all ballots cast on Election Day at 1% of the precincts. However, ballots cast at the Touchscreen Early Voting sites are not a part of the 1% recount. In an effort to demonstrate the accuracy of votes cast on the Touchscreen machines, after the June, 2006 Primary Election the Registrar-Recorder conducted a manual audit of ballots cast on one Touchscreen device, comparing the votes as recorded on VVPAT with the votes that were reported electronically. This audit encountered some problems because it was discovered that the paper roll had jammed during the early voting period, such that portions of four ballots were not legible

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on the VVPAT (out of 62 total ballots cast on this machine). The Registrar-Recorder was able to compensate for this by utilizing stored ballot images of the four missing ballots. With this one caveat, the Registrar-Recorder's manual recount found that the votes recorded electronically on the Touchscreen machine matched perfectly with the votes recorded on the paper audit trail.

Given the ongoing questioning of the Touchscreen voting devices, it would be appropriate to repeat the manual audit of votes cast on no fewer than 5% of the Touchscreen machines used for early voting in the November General Election.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that Item #19 be amended to instruct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to conduct a random audit of votes cast on no fewer than 5% of the Direct Record Electronic ("Touchscreen Early Voting") machines used for early voting at the November 7, 2006 General Election, comparing the votes as recorded on the Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail with the electronically-recorded votes; and to report back to the Board with her findings by December 5, 2006.

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ABK: Touchscreen Voting Manual Recount2